

## SURVEY ON TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS (EETR ) SEPTEMBER 2009

## **The number of visitors and overnight stays increased by 2% and 1% respectively in September 2009**

***The total number of visitors for July, August and September was 11,500 more than in 2008, up by 2%.***

There were 191,903 visitors registered in the hotel establishments of the Basque Country in September 2009, 4,400 up on the same month of the previous year, in other words a 2% increase, according to Eustat data. This growth was based on Gipuzkoa, where the number of visitors increased by 8%, while it fell by 1% in both Álava and Bizkaia compared to the figures for September in the previous year.

The number of visitors from within Spain was up by 3%, while the number of overseas visitors increased by 1% compared to the same month of the previous year. Visitors from within Spain increased in number by 8% in Gipuzkoa, 1% in Bizkaia, but fell by 4% in Álava. However, the number of overseas visitors increased in by 8% in Gipuzkoa and 7% in Álava, while it fell by 6% in Bizkaia.

The greatest increase of Spanish visitors was mainly among those from Catalonia, Comunidad Valenciana, Cantabria, Castilla-La Mancha and Navarra and there was a notable drop in the number coming from the Madrid Autonomous Community, Asturias and Castilla y León. As far as foreign visitors were concerned, there was mainly an increase in the number from the USA-Canada, Central and South American, France, the United Kingdom and Belgium, while the number from Germany, Italy and Portugal decreased.

Registered overnight stays in September 2009 totalled 359,725, which was 1% up on the same month of the previous year, in other words, there were 2,600 more overnight stays. The year-on-year performance of overnight stays was positive in Gipuzkoa, where they were up by 7%, while they fell by 4% in Álava and Bizkaia.

The duration of the average stay fell from 1.90 days in September last year to 1.87 this year for the Basque Country as a whole. It was down by 3% in Álava and in Bizkaia and remained unchanged in Gipuzkoa. Thus, the average stay in Álava in September 2009 was 1.68 days, 1.77 days in Bizkaia, while it stood at 2.05 days in Gipuzkoa.

The occupancy rate by bed was down by 3%, falling from 49.47% last September to 48.08% this August, for the Basque Country as a whole. It fell by 16% in Álava to a 45.6% occupancy rate, Bizkaia was down by 7% to an occupancy rate of 43.13% and the rate in Gipuzkoa increased by 7% and had the highest occupancy rate by bed at 58.11%. The occupancy rate by rooms also fell (5%) for the Basque Country as a whole.

The number of visitors in the Basque Country increased by 2%, 11,500 more visitors, **during the summer months of July August and September**, with respect to the same period of 2008. It rose in the three provinces: It increased by 3% in Álava and Gipuzkoa, and by 1% in Bizkaia. The number of overnight stays also rose by 3% over that same period. It increased by 5% in Álava and Gipuzkoa, and by 1% in Bizkaia. The average stay was up by 1% to an average of 2 days, and the degree of occupancy was 54.39% over these three months, 2% down on the same period of the previous year.

## RURAL TOURISM

**The number of visitors and overnight stays fell by -5% and -10% respectively.**

The number of visitors in rural tourism establishments of the Basque Country totalled 10,122 in September, which was down by 5% with respect to the same month of the previous year. However, the performance of the three provinces was not uniform. The number of visitors fell by 23% in Álava and by 3% in Bizkaia, but increased by 1% in Gipuzkoa. Both visitors from within Spain and from abroad fell in number, with decreases of 2% and 23%, respectively, registered for the Autonomous Community as a whole. The number of visitors from within Spain fell by 21% and those from abroad by 47% in Álava. The Spanish visitors were up by 1% in Bizkaia, but the number of overseas visitors fell by 17%, and the number from within Spain also increase by 4% in Gipuzkoa, but overseas visitors fell by 22%.

There were 26,973 overnight stays in rural tourism establishments in the Basque Country in September, 3,000 fewer than in the same month of the previous year (-10%), with year-on-year negative growth being recorded in Álava (-27%) and Gipuzkoa (-2%), but positive in Bizkaia (+2%).

The average length of stay by visitor in the Basque Country overall decreased with respect to September 2008, falling from 2.81 days a year ago to 2.66 days this September. The average stay increased in Bizkaia and fell in Álava and Gipuzkoa.

The occupancy rate by bed was 24.27%, which was down 16% on the same period of the previous year. This drop was seen in the three provinces, with decreases of 34% being recorded in Alava, 16% in Gipuzkoa and 5% in Bizkaia. The occupancy rate by rooms also fell by 20% in the Basque Country as a whole.

There was the same number of visitors in rural tourism establishments in the three months of July, August and September 2009 as for the same period of the previous year. The number of overnight stays fell by 2%, and only increased in Bizkaia, as the number decreases in both Álava and Gipuzkoa.

**Table 1: Monthly results**

	BASQUE COUNTRY					ÁLAVA					BIZKAIA					GIPUZKOA				
	09 2009	%	09 2008	%	Δ %	09 2009	%	09 2008	%	Δ %	09 2009	%	09 2008	%	Δ %	09 2009	%	09 2008	%	Δ %
<b>HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS</b>																				
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>	359.725	100	357.094	100	1	45.347	100	47.305	100	-4	151.162	100	157.781	100	-4	163.216	100	152.008	100	7
National	237.627	66	234.882	66	1	32.943	73	36.165	76	-9	95.159	63	97.116	62	-2	109.525	67	101.601	67	8
Foreigners	122.098	34	122.212	34	0	12.404	27	11.140	24	11	56.003	37	60.665	38	-8	53.691	33	50.407	33	7
Capital	215.256	60	215.239	60	0	29.899	66	33.737	71	-11	96.771	64	103.413	66	-6	88.586	54	78.089	51	13
Coast	48.851	14	46.334	13	5	-	-	-	-	-	15.367	10	13.912	9	10	33.484	21	32.422	21	3
Inland	95.618	27	95.521	27	0	15.448	34	13.568	29	14	39.024	26	40.456	26	-4	41.146	25	41.497	27	-1
<b>ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS</b>	191.903	100	187.454	100	2	26.915	100	27.215	100	-1	85.520	100	86.622	100	-1	79.468	100	73.617	100	8
National	127.674	67	123.865	66	3	19.682	73	20.426	75	-4	56.494	66	55.679	64	1	51.498	65	47.760	65	8
Foreigners	64.229	33	63.589	34	1	7.233	27	6.789	25	7	29.026	34	30.943	36	-6	27.970	35	25.857	35	8
Capital	113.381	59	114.066	61	-1	16.827	63	18.341	67	-8	53.713	63	57.882	67	-7	42.841	54	37.843	51	13
Coast	23.861	12	22.714	12	5	-	-	-	-	-	8.548	10	7.522	9	14	15.313	19	15.192	21	1
Inland	54.661	28	50.674	27	8	10.088	37	8.874	33	14	23.259	27	21.218	24	10	21.314	27	20.582	28	4
<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	1,87		1,90		-2	1,68		1,74		-3	1,77		1,82		-3	2,05		2,06		0
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES</b>	48,08		49,47		-3	38,85		46,39		-16	43,13		46,29		-7	58,11		54,48		7
Capital	52,50		55,06		-5	39,71		53,60		-26	47,97		51,85		-7	66,61		60,75		10
Coast	54,66		51,07		7	-		-		-	41,31		39,33		5	64,18		58,58		10
Inland	38,44		39,77		-3	37,29		34,76		7	34,98		38,14		-8	42,98		43,64		-2
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS</b>	57,47		60,74		-5	46,77		55,12		-15	54,24		58,69		-8	66,54		65,46		2
Capital	63,55		68,61		-7	49,90		65,97		-24	60,55		66,04		-8	77,24		74,07		4
Coast	60,98		58,79		4	-		-		-	47,96		47,22		2	69,76		65,90		6
Inland	46,26		48,56		-5	40,70		39,01		4	44,74		48,05		-7	50,57		53,36		-5
<b>AGRO-TOURISM</b>																				
<b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b>	26.973	100	30.032	100	-10	3.435	100	4.705	100	-27	8.170	100	8.037	100	2	15.368	100	17.290	100	-11
National	23.244	86	24.288	81	-4	3.117	91	4.255	90	-27	6.381	78	6.563	82	-3	13.746	89	13.470	78	2
Foreigners	3.729	14	5.744	19	-35	318	9	450	10	-29	1.789	22	1.474	18	21	1.622	11	3.820	22	-58
<b>ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS</b>	10.122	100	10.676	100	-5	1.650	100	2.154	100	-23	3.179	100	3.272	100	-3	5.293	100	5.250	100	1
National	8.895	88	9.084	85	-2	1.546	94	1.958	91	-21	2.631	83	2.609	80	1	4.718	89	4.517	86	4
Foreigners	1.227	12	1.592	15	-23	104	6	196	9	-47	548	17	663	20	-17	575	11	733	14	-22
<b>AVERAGE STAY</b>	2,66		2,81		-5	2,08		2,18		-5	2,57		2,46		4	2,90		3,29		-12
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES</b>	24,27		28,87		-16	15,68		23,83		-34	21,75		22,82		-5	29,73		35,25		-16
<b>OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS</b>	25,84		32,46		-20	16,74		28,17		-41	23,06		25,72		-10	31,79		39,30		-19

Source: EUSTAT

**For further information:**

Basque Statistics Office

C/ Donostia-San Sebastián, 1 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz

Tel.: +34-945-01 75 00 Fax: +34-945-01 75 01 E-mail: [eustat@eustat.es](mailto:eustat@eustat.es)

Contact: Gerardo Pérez Aja

Tel.: +34-945-01 75 06 Fax: +34-945-01 75 01

Online press releases: [www.eustat.es](http://www.eustat.es)

Databank: [www.eustat.es/bancopx/english/indice.asp](http://www.eustat.es/bancopx/english/indice.asp)